



Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C. 20013

NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES
450 – VI
NOTICE 148
Amendment 6

January 13, 2010

Purpose. This notice transmits new or revised National Conservation Practice Standards, along with an updated Index, for insertion into the National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP). In addition, notes are included to highlight key changes made to each document.

Effective Date. This notice is effective when received.

Explanation. New or revised National Conservation Practice Standards:

Anaerobic Digester (Code 366): Two existing practice standards were combined (Anaerobic Digester – Ambient Temperature (Code 365) and Anaerobic Digester – Controlled Temperature (Code 366)) into a revised 366 Anaerobic Digester standard. Every Section of this standard has been edited to ensure it addressed all types of anaerobic digesters

Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Application (Code 450): The title was changed from “PAM Erosion Control”. Safety and Health considerations and References were added.

Brush Management (Code 314): Substantial changes are proposed to this practice standard. Prescribed Burning is removed as a brush management treatment. Only chemical, mechanical and biological treatments are included. Prescribed burning for brush management purposes is covered in the Prescribed Burning (Code 338) standard. In the Purpose Section, wildfire hazard reduction has changed to be more comprehensive. In the Criteria Section, use of Ecological Site Descriptions has been added as a requirement. Further, the Criteria Section was enhanced to specifically address wildlife concerns. The Plans and Specifications Section has been expanded to include requirements for monitoring.

Fish Raceway or Tank (Code 398): For the most part, only minor editorial or grammatical changes have been made to this standard. The only significant change within the standard was to remove the exclusion of hatchery operations from the Conditions Where Practice Applies Section. NRCS reviews standards periodically to ensure they are still current; this was primarily the situation for this standard.

Irrigation Ditch Lining (Code 428): The title changed from “Irrigation Water Conveyance, Ditch and Canal Lining”, combining the three previous separate standards for Plain Concrete



(A), Flexible Membrane (B), and Galvanized Steel (C). Criteria for Chemical Linings, and References were added.

Irrigation Pipeline (Code 430): The title was changed from “Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, (various)”, combining six previous separate standards for Aluminum Tubing (AA), Nonreinforced Concrete (CC), High-Pressure, Underground Plastic (DD), Low-Pressure, Underground Plastic (EE), Steel (FF), and Reinforced Plastic Mortar (GG). The standard for Asbestos-Cement Pipe (BB) was deleted. Criteria in NEH-636, Chapter 52 “Structural Design of Flexible Conduits” are referenced. Langelier Saturation Index equation and References were added.

Irrigation Reservoir (Code 436): The titles were changed and standards combined for “Irrigation Regulating Reservoir” (552) and “Irrigation Storage Reservoir” (436). Considerations were expanded and References added.

Roof Runoff Structure (Code 558): No significant changes are proposed to this practice standard. NRCS reviews standards periodically to ensure they are still current; this was the situation for this standard.

Surface Drain, Field Ditch (Code 607): The title was changed from “Surface Drainage, Field Ditch.” Criteria for capacity was added, considerations expanded, and References were added.

Surface Drain, Main or Lateral (Code 608): The text was streamlined and References were added.

Surface Roughening (Code 609): No significant technical changes are proposed to this practice standard; however significant edits and grammatical changes have been made. The Purposes Section has been edited for clarity and as a result the number of purposes has been reduced. However, the intent of the edits was exclude previous purposes, just merge existing ones into more clearly worded statements. In the Criteria Section, procedure type narratives were removed. In the Considerations Section, additional considerations were added to address emergency tillage, the initial tillage operation, and the direction of tillage.

Instructions. If a hard copy of NHCP is maintained, replace the Content pages i through vi, dated November 2008, in NHCP with the revised Contents pages found at:

http://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/H_450_NHCP_Index_148.rtf.

Insert the new or revised standards, listed above in bold, in the NHCP in alphabetical order as designated on the revised Contents pages. Remove and archive, as appropriate, the existing practice standard for: Anaerobic Digester – Ambient Temperature (Code 365) dated September 2003; Anaerobic Digester – Controlled Temperature (Code 366) dated September 2003; Brush Management (Code 314) dated December 2003; Fish Raceway or Tank (Code 398) dated September 2003; Irrigation Water Conveyance, Ditch and Canal Lining - Plain Concrete (Code 428A); Irrigation Water Conveyance, Ditch and Canal Lining – Flexible Membrane (Code 428B); Irrigation Water Conveyance, Ditch and Canal Lining – Galvanized Steel (Code 428C);

Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - Aluminum Tubing (Code 430AA) dated October 1978; Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - Asbestos-Cement Pipe (Code 430BB) dated April 1982; Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - Nonreinforced Concrete (Code 430CC) dated June 1984; Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - High-Pressure, Underground Plastic (Code 430DD) dated May 1988; Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - Low-Pressure, Underground Plastic (Code 430EE) dated May 1988; Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - Steel (Code 430FF) dated October 1978; Irrigation Water Conveyance - Pipeline - Reinforced Plastic Mortar (Code 430GG) dated April 1982; Irrigation Regulating Reservoir (Code 552) dated July 2002; Irrigation Storage Reservoir (Code 436) dated July 2002; Roof Runoff Structure (Code 558) dated September 2001; Surface Drainage, Field Ditch (Code 607) dated March 2003; Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral (Code 608) dated July 2002; and Surface Roughening (Code 609) dated September 2001.

This notice and each of the conservation practice standards included with this notice can be accessed electronically. Access can be through either the NRCS homepage on the Internet at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html>; or from the FTP server at: <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NHQ/practice-standards/standards/>.

Federal Register Notices.

NRCS published a notice of intent to revise or adopt these standards in the **Federal Register** on April 15, 2009. Comments from the public were accepted during the 30 day comment period.

Guidance to the States and the Pacific Islands and Caribbean Areas can be found in Title 450, Technology, General Manual, Section 401.19 for complying with the provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill that require advertising for public comment prior to revising NRCS State-level technical guides.

/s/

NOLLER P. HERBERT
Director
Conservation Engineering Division

/s/

MICHAEL D. HUBBS
Director
Ecological Sciences Division